

September 12, 2005
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-- REMARKS --

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 15-27 are currently pending. In an Office Communication dated August 10, 2005, Examiner Mendex requested that new claims 15-27 be addressed in light of the cited art. The Applicant stated in a response to the office action filed May 23, 2005 that new claims 15-27 are allowable over the prior art for at least the same reasons as stated above for claims 1, 2 and 4-8 and that support for new claims 15-27 can be found at least at page 5 line 11 to page 8 line 13 and FIGS. 1 to 7.

Regarding new claims 15-17, claims 15-17 depend indirectly from independent claim 1 and include all of the limitations of that claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claims 15-17 are allowable for at least the same reason as discussed in the office action response filed May 23, 2005.

Regarding new claims 18-27, neither the Douglas patent nor the Lastovich patent discloses, teaches, or suggests, at a minimum, a flexible delivery tube including a central lumen, a closed first end and an open second end and a rigid planar support base attached adjacent a first end of the delivery tube, the support base having a first side for supporting the flexible delivery tube and a second side as recited in independent claim 18. Further, the patents to Whitney, Douglas, Goldowsky and Bierman, also do not disclose, teach or suggest these claim elements when used alone or in combination with the prior art.

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SUMMARY

In light of the response filed May 23, 2005 and the above remarks, Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and notification of allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
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